

## Your Presbytery Link – a summary of what we did

Shared joys and concerns in prayer.

Noted and/or approved changes in calls:

Gary Brose from Muskingum Pby to member at-large  
Jan Dykstra to Interim Assoc. Pastor, Wyoming Church  
Paul Hammer from Pastor, Mt. Washington

to Honorably Retired

Santana Krishnan to Pastor Emeritus, Third Church  
John Muntz to Interim Pastor, Mt. Washington Church  
Bill Westmoreland from Stated Supply, Williamsburg  
Church to member at-large

Commissioned Lew Wittman as Commissioned Lay  
Pastor to Red Oak Church.

Celebrated the ministry of Jim Graham upon his  
honorable retirement.

Spent time “Equipping Ourselves for Transformation.”  
Consultant Ann Philbrick compared traditional and  
missional congregations/presbyteries, explained  
organizational life-cycles, and summarized generational  
differences. We then broke into small groups to discuss  
these issues before re-gathering to hear about the  
importance of spiritual and relational vitality in  
congregations, presbytery and leaders. It was  
recommended that, for a presbytery to be  
transformational, its staff divide its time: 30% on  
management, 15% on pastoral care, 20% as  
trainer/delegator/supporter, 5% as embodiment of the  
tradition, and 30% on transformational leadership

Worshipped. Glenn Baaten’s sermon focused on the four  
gifts of peace, unity, purity and love. We celebrated the  
Lord’s Supper. The offering was designated for a hunger  
ministry supported by Springdale Church and to the  
Presbyterian Disaster Assistance Program, which hopes  
to raise \$2.5 million for tsunami relief.

Received an invitation to join the Peace, Unity and Purity  
Society (PUPS). The group of theologically diverse  
members of the presbytery and its congregations meets  
regularly for study, dialog and relationship building.

Adopted the presbytery’s Shared Practical Vision and  
Strategic Directions for the next five years. They grew  
out of 1) input from focus groups, presbytery committees  
and a survey of elders serving on sessions and 2)

analysis of the input by Presbytery Council and  
committee representatives at two day-long meetings and  
by small groups at two presbytery meetings.

Approved the position description for the presbytery’s  
General Presbyter and set the job’s minimum  
salary/housing at \$60,000. The position is currently  
vacant, and a search committee is working to identify the  
person(s) to fill it.

Noted the appointment of the Outdoor Education Task  
Force: Gordon Dennis (Wyoming), Beth McHenry  
(Heritage), Mona Morrow (Carmel), and Stephanie Saffer  
(St. John’s Westminster). One more member TBA.

Elected Bill Westmoreland (at-large), Barbara Tesorero  
(at-large), Mike Mullin (designated pastor, Bethel  
Murdoch), and Rose Che (Kennedy Heights) to the  
Nominating Committee.

Voted YES to amendments that the 216<sup>th</sup> General  
Assembly recommended be made to the *Book of Order*:  
04-A: On Amending G-7.0306 to allow an elder who has  
served on the Committee on Ministry to moderate a  
congregational meeting under certain circumstances.  
04-B: On Amending G-9.0503a(2) to allow presbyteries  
to 1) recognize leaders of immigrant fellowships with  
roots in the Reformed tradition as elders and 2) grant  
designated leader(s) of immigrant fellowships voice and  
vote in presbytery meetings.  
04-C: On Amending G-14.0515d to clarify under what  
circumstances a parish associate’s relationship to a  
congregation ends.  
The full text of proposed amendments is posted at  
[www.pcusa.org/oga/amendments](http://www.pcusa.org/oga/amendments). If a majority of the  
presbyteries vote in the affirmative, changes will be  
made to the next edition of the *Book of Order*.

Encouraged participation in the One Great Hour of  
Sharing offering.

Authorized the celebration of the Lord’s Supper at  
Presbytery Youth Connection events in 2005.

Noted that information about this year’s camping  
scholarships is posted on the presbytery’s website:  
[www.presbyteryofcincinnati.org](http://www.presbyteryofcincinnati.org)

## Upcoming Events

Feb 5-6 – FINDING FAITH. A PYC Senior High Retreat. Registration Deadline, January 19.

Feb 15 – DISTURBANCE OF THE SOLID GROUND. An Equipping the Saints Seminar. Led by the Rev. Thomas  
Troeger. Registration required. Contact Tom Oxley, 937-258-8118 or [tom.oxley@miamipresbytery.org](mailto:tom.oxley@miamipresbytery.org)

Mar 4-5 – DESERT FLOODS: Where is the REAL in Reality? Synod Youth Symposium. To reserve a space on the  
presbytery’s chartered bus, contact Stephanie Saffer, 513-398-7671 or [saffer102@aol.com](mailto:saffer102@aol.com) by Feb 18.

For more info about any of the above, contact the presbytery office: 513-221-4850; 1-888-221-4238;  
[mail@presbyteryofcincinnati.org](mailto:mail@presbyteryofcincinnati.org)

-- Janis Alling Adams, Stated Clerk